



BOROUGH OF GODALMING.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health
for 1947

TOGETHER WITH THAT OF THE

Sanitary Inspector

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

for 1947.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Godalming.*

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1947.

I am glad to state that the death rate is considerably lower than that of 1946, and as usual a high percentage (70 per cent.) of the deaths were in persons over 65. The birth rate is also lower than that for 1946, and is due to a general fall in the birth rate throughout the country.

Special comment is made upon the aged, for whom it is now requisite to do a great deal more than previously owing to their increased numbers due to a more healthy way of life.

Notifiable infectious diseases were considerably more than for 1946. This was due to a simultaneous increase in notifications of Measles, Chickenpox and German Measles. Fortunately the outbreak of Infantile Paralysis, although it occasioned eleven notifications, did not leave any serious effects. Deaths from Infectious Diseases were negligible except, of course, Tuberculosis.

Yours faithfully,

F. A. BELAM, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health :

F. A. BELAM, T.D., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H., F.R.S.I.

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

P. A. WARNER, C.R.San.I., M.S.I.Assn.

Assistant Sanitary Inspector :

F. W. CULVER, A.R.San.I.
(Appointed 10th November, 1947).

Clerks :

Miss E. K. GILBERT.
Miss A. EVANS.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (acres), 2,393.

Population (Registrar General's Estimate, mid-year 1947):
14,260.

Number of inhabited houses (at end of 1947), according to
the rate books: 3,991.

Rateable Value: £127,885.

Sum represented by a penny rate, 1st April, 1947: £508 15s. 1d.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

	Total.	M.	F.	
Live Births—				
Total ...	247	115	132	<div> <div>Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident popula- tion, 17.32.</div> </div>
Legitimate ...	234	113	121	
Illegitimate ...	13	2	11	
Still Births—				
Legitimate ...	5	3	2	<div> <div>Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 44.88.</div> <div>Still-birth Rate per 1,000 population, 0.58.</div> </div>
Illegitimate ...	2	2	—	
Deaths ...	173	76	97	<div> <div>Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident popula- tion, 12.13.</div> </div>

Deaths from Puerperal causes : Nil.

Death Rate of infants under 1 year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births ...	32.38
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	29.90
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	76.92

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... 22

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... Nil

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) ... Nil

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age) ... 2

The Birth Rate is 17.32, which is a drop from that of last year. This reflects the general fall in the birth rate over the country as a whole from the phenomenally high figure of 1946. It is lower than that of the country as a whole.

The Death Rate is fortunately lower than that of 1946, being 12.13, and compares favourably with that of the country as a whole (12.0), but is higher than that of the 148 smaller towns. As is general, deaths were mostly due to heart disease; more than one-third of the deaths being assigned to this cause. Intracranial vascular lesions cause the next highest number, equalled by cancer. Other causes occasion only small numbers of deaths. Seventy per cent. of the deaths were in persons

over 65. This draws attention to the growing problem of the care of the aged or gerontology. It is being dealt with by the Government in the proposed provision of hostels to which each old person contributes £1 per week of his old age pension, thus allowing 6/- for personal use, tobacco, etc.

In Godalming, bungalows are provided for the old folk, and very nice they are: well planned, affording just those facilities to hand which makes it easy for old persons to keep their homes clean and tidy.

The care of the old folk is therefore not being overlooked, and even since the end of the war new bungalows have been provided. Actually this helps the housing problem by relieving overcrowding in a house by the removal of the old people. An important point in the provision of groups of old folks' bungalows is the provision of a bungalow adjoining, for a nurse, so that she can keep a daily eye on the old people and note their state of health. This avoids the sad state of affairs when an old person falls ill and is not found for some days. Even death may supervene unnoticed by unobservant neighbours, which is truly a terrible reflection upon neighbourliness.

Turning to the other end of life, it is most satisfactory to note that only about half the deaths of infants under twelve months which occurred in 1946, took place in 1947: eight as opposed to fourteen. Of these deaths, one was due to congenital conditions, two to prematurity, one to pneumonia, one to bronchitis, two to diarrhoea and one to other causes. Causes of infantile deaths were discussed in my last report and also means of prevention. Briefly these consist of close ante-natal care and adequate health visiting at the home before and immediately after the birth to ensure that the mother keeps healthy and eats all extra rations allowed, herself, and makes use of vitamin adjuncts available to expectant and nursing mothers. Also that the home is made as suitable as can be for the reception of the new baby and that the baby is breast fed for at least six months to give it a good start.

The ages at death of the infants were: One each at 2 days and 4 days, two at 1 week, one each at 3 and 4 weeks, 8 months and 11 months. Neo-natal deaths were therefore five out of eight. Out of 247 registered births eight infant deaths is not a large number and gives an infantile mortality rate of 32.3, which compares very favourably with that of the country as a whole (41) and with that of the 148 smaller towns (36).

Birth Rate, Death Rate, and Analysis of Mortality in the Year 1947. Provisional Figures.

England & Wales, 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, and 148 Smaller Towns.	Rate per 1,000 Population		Annual Death-Rate per 1,000 Population									Rate per 1,000 Live Births	
	Live Births	Still-births	All Causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years	Total Deaths under 1 year
England and Wales	20.5	0.50	12.0	—	—	0.01	—	0.02	0.01	0.09	—	5.8	41
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	23.3	0.62	13.0	—	—	0.02	—	0.03	0.01	0.09	—	8.0	47
148 Smaller Towns (Resid't Populat'ns 25,000 to 50,000 — 1931 Census) ...	22.2	0.54	11.9	—	—	0.02	—	0.02	0.01	0.08	—	3.7	36
London ...	22.7	0.49	12.8	—	—	0.01	—	0.02	0.01	0.08	—	4.8	37
GODALMING ...	17.32	0.58	12.13	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.01	—	8.9	32.38

The Maternal Mortality Rates for England and Wales are as follows :

per 1,000	Total Births	...	Puerperal Sepsis—0.16	Others—1.01	Total 1.17
Godalming	...	...	...	—	—

Godalming Deaths in 1947.

Cause of Death	Age at Death										Total	R G. Total
	Age at Death											
	Under 1	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 & over				
Diphtheria	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. 1	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. 1	M. — F. 3
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. 2	M. — F. 1	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —
Other forms of Tuberculosis	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —
Syphilitic Disease	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —
Influenza	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —
Cancer of Oesophagus	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —
Cancer of Stomach	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —
Cancer of Breast	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —
Cancer of other sites	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —
Cancer of other sites	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —
Heart Disease	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —
Other Circulatory Diseases	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —
Bronchitis	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —
Pneumonia	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —
Other Respiratory Diseases	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —
Ulcer of Stomach, etc.	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —
Diarrhoea under 2 years	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —
Other Digestive Diseases	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —
Nephritis	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —
Premature Births	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —
Congenital Malformation	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —
Violent Deaths	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —
All other causes	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —	M. — F. —
Total, all causes	4	4	—	1	—	4	4	14	14	42	66	96
	4	4	—	1	—	4	4	14	14	73	96	97

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

(a) **Laboratory Facilities.**—Arrangements are the same: specimens being sent to the Pathological Laboratory of the Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford, whence are obtained forms for use by practitioners desiring to avail themselves of the free service.

During 1947 the following pathological work was done for Godalming: 51 swabs for diphtheria, 13 for haemolytic streptococci, 7 sputa for tubercle, and 13 miscellaneous examinations—84 in all. Water samples are sent to the Counties Public Health Laboratories, 66, Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

(b) **Ambulance Facilities.**—For non-infectious and accident cases the motor ambulances of the Godalming Division of the British Red Cross Society are used. They are staffed by two full-time paid drivers and by men of the Division on a part-time basis. Infectious cases are sent to Ottershaw or Farnham Isolation Hospital in those hospitals' ambulances.

The following figures indicate to some extent the work carried out by the staff of the Godalming Division of the British Red Cross Society (Men's Detachment):—

Number of Calls (including 86 Accident Calls received)	...	...	...	...	...	901
Number of miles travelled	...	...	...	...	...	18,741
Hours of duty (including cinemas, fêtes, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	3,659

(c) **Nursing in the Home.** There are three midwives practising in the Borough. The Surrey County Council are responsible for financial aid to these midwives.

The following indicates the work of the Nurses of the Godalming Nursing and Child Welfare Association during 1947:—

Number of District Cases	...	...	...	222
Number of District Visits	...	...	...	3,924
Number of Midwifery Cases	...	...	...	58
Number of Maternity Cases (with Doctor)	...	...	...	2
Number of Midwifery and Maternity Visits	...	...	...	1,144
Number of Ante-Natal Visits	...	...	...	517
Number of Casual Visits	...	...	...	344
Number of Factory Visits	...	...	...	47

(d) **Clinics and Treatment Centres.**—The Surrey County Council Clinics are as follows :—

AT CHURCH ROOM, GODALMING.

Maternity and Child Welfare—

Dental Clinic: Mondays, 10–12 and 2–4 p.m. Thursdays, 10–12 noon and 2–4 p.m.

Ante-Natal Clinics: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 10–12 noon.

Child Welfare Centre: Wednesdays and Fridays, 2–4 p.m.

School Treatment Centres—

General Medical Clinics: Every Friday, 10 a.m.

Eye Clinic: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 2–4 p.m.

Diphtheria Immunisation:

Fridays (School children), 10 a.m.

Wednesdays and Fridays (Children 1–5 years), 2–4 p.m.

AT MILFORD SANATORIUM.

Tuberculosis Dispensary: 2nd and 4th Fridays, 2–4 p.m.

AT TOWER HOUSE CLINIC, EPSOM ROAD, GUILDFORD.

Tuberculosis Dispensary:

Mondays, 1.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Wednesdays, 1.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Fridays, 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

All cases seen by appointment.

AT ROYAL SURREY COUNTY HOSPITAL, GUILDFORD.

Venereal Disease:

Males: Tuesdays and Fridays, 5 to 7 p.m.; Saturdays, 9.30 to 11.30 a.m.

Females: Mondays, 2 to 7 p.m.; Thursdays, 9.30 to 11 a.m.

(e) Hospital Provision.

(1) The Royal Surrey County Hospital at Guildford offers 229 beds (206 general and 23 private), including 25 emergency medical service beds. General medical and surgical cases are accepted, and orthopaedic, ophthalmic, dermatological, aural, radiological and gynaecological specialists are on the staff of honorary medical officers. Only complicated maternity cases are taken if operation is required.

(2) The St. Luke's Hospital of the Surrey County Council at Guildford offers 409 beds, which include 291 general, 56 maternity, and 62 maternity cots.

(3) St. Thomas's Hospital, established at Hydestile, Godalming during the war when the London premises were so heavily bombed, offered 298 beds, including 50 emergency medical service and 18 for children. The London specialists in all branches of medicine and surgery attended, and a complete staff of nurses. All facilities were offered, and this very efficient well run hospital was of inestimable benefit to Godalming, many of whose sick residents received the most expert attention. Godalming has reason to be grateful to St Thomas's Hospital. Unfortunately at the end of the year the hospital returned to London. It is sincerely hoped that the very great benefits conferred by such a well run hospital in the vicinity will not be completely lost and that the hospital buildings will still be used as such when the new Regional Hospital Board takes over. Several suggestions have been made as to the most suitable use; among them the urgent need of hospital provision for the chronic sick, whose plight is often truly deplorable. For years the doctors have complained of the totally inadequate provision of hospitals for these persons. Nursing them at home, especially at the present time when so many houses are grossly overcrowded, not only throws an almost unbearable strain on relatives but often results in unsatisfactory care of the patient, which frequently means premature death in deplorable conditions. The plight of the sick old couple or one partner is especially unhappy. This problem, like that of the healthy aged, calls for urgent remedy.

(2) Maternity and Nursing Homes.—There are two nursing homes in the Borough registered by the County Council. These are Mount Alvernia with eighteen beds, of which eleven are maternity and seven for general use, and Highview, Nightingale Road, with five beds mostly used for maternity

cases. This home closed down in February 1948. There is now only one nursing home which has been specifically excluded by the Minister of Health from transfer to him as laid down in the National Health Service Act.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

(3) **Infectious Diseases.** These are sent to the Isolation Hospitals at Farnham and Ottershaw. Admissions are as shewn in the table:—

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ...	—	1	—
Scarlet Fever	7	7	—
Diphtheria	1	1	1
Pneumonia	20	—	—
Whooping Cough	2	—	—
Measles	131	5	—
Poliomyelitis	3	2	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	2	—	—
Mumps	—	1	—
Typhoid	1	—	—
	<hr/> 167 <hr/>	<hr/> 17 <hr/>	<hr/> 1 <hr/>

176 cases of infectious disease were notified during the year but of these 131 were cases of measles. This disease like whooping cough is of periodic prevalence. In 1946 there were only seven cases notified but the previous year there were 153. Measles is generally a disease affecting the younger age groups up to ten, and the disease thereafter confers immunity against subsequent attack as a rule, though by no means invariably. Unfortunately, means of conferring artificial immunity to this disease have not yet been elaborated though various methods have been tried, but none of general application. Thus when many children have the disease all those who have neither had it nor possess natural immunity gained by contact with the disease in sub-infective doses, will con-

tract it. It is obvious that very little natural immunity exists; hence even a fairly extensive outbreak like that of 1945 only serves to reduce the incidence for one year, after which a sufficient number of non-immune children have become available for attack. It must be remembered that only those children in actual contact with the disease who yet did not contract it will have been immunised naturally, and if the disease is only prevalent in certain districts of the town, children in other districts will still be susceptible to attack when the disease arises in their own district. This is fairly well borne out by the present outbreak. In 1945, 48 cases were reported from Moss Lane School, in 1947 only 6; 34 from Bridge Road School as against 10 in 1947; but from Farncombe George Road School 50 cases were reported in 1945 and 39 in 1947; so that, despite the number infected at the last school in 1945, sufficient susceptible children remained in 1947 for 39 cases to develop.

Then in 1945 about half the total number of children who developed the disease were under five (72). In 1947, 69 cases were notified from the schools, i.e., 7 over five and 62 under five, but in 1945, 138 cases were notified from the schools, and in 1947, 69, so that prevalence in under fives was much higher in 1947 than in 1945, indicating a higher degree of immunity among the school children than in 1945; doubtless due to the outbreak of the latter year.

Pneumonia was notified in 20 cases, but this disease is never notified in any direct proportion to its incidence. The reason for this is probably because the doctor realises that nothing of value to the patient results from notification nor does it affect the health of the community. Its only value is that it is an indication of the prevalence of lung trouble, severe weather, or may be a precursor of an influenzal outbreak.

Scarlet Fever was only notified in seven cases, all of which were removed to Hospital, two being in one family.

Diphtheria was notified once, the patient being dead before notification. This was a peculiarly unfortunate case. The child was a visitor from Brookwood and was eight years of age. She had been immunised at twelve months but not since.

Poliomyelitis, though prevalent in the rural district around, only caused three notifications of the disease in Godalming. Two of these were young adults, one of whom came to Godalming from Portsmouth already suffering from the disease, which had not been diagnosed. She had severe paralysis of leg muscles which took several months of specialised treatment to correct. She was not admitted to hospital, but despite her condition passed safely through a confinement, having a normal infant.

The other was a young man employed in the Rural District. He was three weeks in hospital and then discharged quite fit.

The third case was a boy of ten who was a month in hospital and recovered satisfactorily despite being tuberculous. These cases were in no way connected and infected no other person.

Typhoid. One case of an adult of 37 was notified. The disease appeared to be definitely traceable to infected water drunk whilst on a visit to France. No local means of infection was discovered.

A case suspected to be suffering from cerebro-spinal meningitis was admitted to hospital without notification, but there found to be suffering from measles.

Whooping Cough, only causing two notifications, is the lowest incidence of the disease for some years, but its attack rate has not been high since 1941, so an increase in notifications of this disease may well be anticipated.

A new form of immunisation against whooping cough has just been discovered, and the claim is made that the new inoculation will afford complete protection in 70-80% of cases. This claim remains to be substantiated, but the disease causes much discomfort and debility to the under fives who are usually the subjects of attack, and if the disease can be prevented it should be.

The two children notified as suffering from ophthalmia neonatorum were treated at home by their private doctor.

Summary of Notifications of Cases and Contacts of Infectious Disease received from Schools.

Disease			Total	Central	Council, Bridge Rd., Jun. Mixed & Infants	Moss Lane C. of E. Girls and Infants	Busbridge	Farncombe, George Road	County	St. John St. Jun. Mixed & Infants
Measles	...	...	60	—	10	6	—	39	—	5
Scarlet Fever	...	...	7	5	—	—	—	2	—	—
Chicken-pox	...	...	62	1	12	42	—	4	2	1
Mumps	...	...	14	2	—	4	—	3	—	4
German Measles	...	...	52	3	2	—	—	26	6	15
Whooping Cough	...	...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Impetigo	...	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Infantile Paralysis	...	...	11	5	—	6	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	...	...	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Total	...	...	211	16	25	58	—	76	10	25

Notifiable Disease (other than Tuberculosis).

Disease			Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 & over
Scarlet Fever	...	...	—	—	—	—	1	4	2	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	...	...	1	—	2	1	1	7	—	—	—	2	3	3
Poliomyelitis	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	...	...	2	16	11	20	14	59	4	—	3	2	—	—
Typhoid	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	...	...	5	17	13	21	16	71	7	—	5	5	3	3

Tuberculosis. It is much more satisfactory to be able to report that fewer cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified in 1947 than in 1946. Ten new cases of pulmonary and five of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year or otherwise brought to notice. This is seven less than the number notified in 1946.

Comments as to dietary deficiencies and housing shortage made last year remain unaltered as yet, but every effort is made by the Council to give priority to the re-housing of infectious tuberculous cases.

The After-Care Committee are doing their best to ameliorate the hard lot of these people, and during the year food parcels from Australia were distributed to selected pulmonary cases on the Tuberculosis Register.

At the end of 1947 there were 115 cases on the register: four less than in 1946. There were 15 new cases, 7 deaths, 10 removals from the district, and 2 cases were notified by the Tuberculosis Officer as recovered.

Tuberculosis: New Cases and Mortality during 1947.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1-5	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
5-10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20	—	*1	*1	—	—	—	—	—
20-25	—	*1	*1	*2	—	—	—	—
25-35	1	*1	—	—	—	1	—	—
35-45	*1	2	—	—	3	1	—	—
45-55	...(*1) 2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
55-65	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5	5	2	3	4	3	—	—

(*Denotes transfers)

Housing of Tuberculous Cases.

A special survey was made of housing conditions of cases of tuberculosis in view of the general overcrowding and shortage of houses which is general throughout the country.

Seventy-one cases were investigated and, of these, 67 were found to be adequately housed in accordance with the standard laid down in the Housing Act, 1936. Only four were inadequately housed by these standards, and these cases were found to fall into three categories :—

Overcrowded due to married relatives sharing house	1
Overcrowded in one room	2
Overcrowded in parents' house	1

In order to ascertain whether adequate sleeping accommodation was available, further enquiry was made as to the adequacy of bedroom provision. In 52 cases a separate bedroom was available. The number of cases where separate bedrooms were not available was 19, and these were as follows :—

Families requiring extra bedroom for tubercular member of family	7
Families overcrowded in one room	2
Families occupying inadequate temporary accommodation	2
Married cases awaiting Council houses temporarily living with relatives	2
Married cases accommodating relatives temporarily	5
Unmarried cases sharing bedroom in lodgings ...	1

It is thus seen that cases of tuberculosis in Godalming are reasonably well housed and essential precautions taken against the spread of infection. In view of the shortage of sanatorium accommodation this is particularly satisfactory as many cases of open infective tuberculosis have to be nursed at home owing to the lack of beds.

Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Summary of Routine and other Inspection Work carried out.

ROUTINE INSPECTIONS MADE.

Housing Inspections and Re-inspections (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	511
Nuisances, Complaints, Advisory Visits, etc.	535
Inspections of—	
Drainage to Houses, including Tests	149
Meat Inspection	101
Bakehouses	269
Dairies, Cowsheds, Milk-shops and Milk Stores ...	78
Factories, Work-places and Outworkers' Premises	249
Food shops and places where Food is prepared and stored	512
Foodstuffs for condemnation	185
Offensive Trades Premises	26
Premises referred: Provision of Dustbins ...	65
Rat-infested Premises	35
Public and Private Conveniences	136
Council's Hostels	12
Investigations under—	
Shops and Young Persons Employment Acts ...	70
Petroleum and Carbide Acts	15
Infectious Disease Notifications and Prevention Acts (including Disinfections)	66
Part IV, Housing Act 1936 (Overcrowding) ...	33
Public Health Act, 1936 (Verminous Premises)...	8
Public Health Act, 1936 (Smoke Abatement) ...	2
Sampling of—	
Water Supplies	8
Milk Supplies	2
	<hr/>
	3,067

NOTICES SERVED.

Statutory Notices	...	...	12
Informal Notices	...	...	574
			<hr/>
Total Notices served	...	...	586
Complied with	...	...	549
			<hr/>
Not complied with at 31.12.47			37
			<hr/>

Factories Act, 1937.

(Information required by the Secretary of State.)

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES AND OTHER PREMISES UNDER THE ACT.

Premises.	Inspec- tions.	Number of Written Notices.	Occup. Pros.
Factories with mechanical power ...	75	4	—
Factories without mechanical power...	128	2	—
Other premises under the Act (includ- ing works of building and engin- eering construction but not includ- ing outworkers' premises) ...	46	4	—
(Electrical Stations should be reckoned as Factories.)			
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		249	10
		<hr/>	<hr/>

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects		Ref'd by H.M. Inspection.	No. of defects in respect of which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	R'died.		
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)				
Insufficient	3	2	2	Nil
Unsuitable or Defective	1	1	Nil	Nil
Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
*Other Offences	5	4	2	Nil
	<hr/> 9	<hr/> 7	<hr/> 4	<hr/> Nil

(*Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER SUPPLY.

New main extensions carried out during the year were:—

Godalming Borough (Aarons Hill Estate), not completed:
502 yds. of 6in., 354 yds. of 4in., and 272 yds. of 3in. main
to supply permanent and prefabricated Council houses.

Godalming Borough (The Wharf): 96 yds. of 3in. main to
improve supply to existing factories.

Hambleton Rural District Council: 1,045 yds. of 4in. and
754 yds. of 3in. main to supply new, existing and Swedish
houses.

Three new shallow wells were constructed in Deanery
Meadows at Borough Road Pumping Station and brought into
use on 20th December, 1947.

The water supply has been satisfactory throughout the water area, both as regards quality and quantity.

Bacteriological and chemical examinations of treated and untreated water are made quarterly from samples taken by the Sanitary Inspector. All these proved to be in all respects satisfactory for a public supply.

Bacteriological examinations have also been made of samples obtained from various premises within the water supply area, which are supplied from the various service reservoirs. These were taken by the Water Department; in addition four reports were received from Hambledon Rural District Council and one from Guildford Rural District Council on samples taken from piped supplies in their area—all of which were of satisfactory bacterial purity. No form of contamination of supplies was experienced during the year.

The number of dwelling houses supplied direct from the Corporation mains in the water supply area is 6,507, and the estimated population supplied with water is 25,030. Number of houses supplied by standpipe, 23, with a population of 65.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

There were no new soil or surface water sewers laid, or extensions made during the year.

Conditions at the Council's Sewage Works at Unstead were satisfactory. Sludge was removed frequently by farmers and others, and no complaint was received from the Thames Conservancy Board in regard to effluent discharged into the river.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

There were no complaints of pollution of the river or streams during the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Numbers of cesspools and pail closets remaining in the Borough are as follows:—

Cesspools draining houses: 31 (23 no sewers available).

Pail closets attached to cottages: 19 (15 no sewers available).

Two cottage properties were connected to the main sewers during the year, and three cesspools filled in.

The owners of Wyatt's Almshouses were unable to effect a contract for provision of water closets and drainage to replace existing pail closets owing to continued shortage of labour for this work.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The Town Council resumed weekly collection of house and trade refuse in the Borough during the year.

Salvage of certain essential materials continued along with the collection of refuse.

Controlled tipping continued at Cateshall Lane, Godalming, on land which will eventually be used for factory extensions.

During the year 268 dustbins to premises were found to be defective; although some delay was experienced by owners of property in replacing these with new bins, the majority had done so by the end of the year.

SHOPS AND OFFICES.

Owing to lack of assistance, routine inspections of these was impossible, but inspections were made in cases where complaints arose or nuisances existed. In no case was it found necessary to take formal action for remedy of defects, occupiers responding satisfactorily to informal requests for remedy of defects, etc.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Only one complaint from excessive smoke from a factory chimney was received during the year. Occupiers of factories, workplaces, etc., generally complied with the provisions of the law in keeping their output of smoke down to the minimum, compatible with the inferior grades of fuel with which they were supplied.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Three cases of infestation came to the notice of the Department during the year. All were treated twice with a liquid insecticide containing D.D.T., and from inspections made subsequently it was considered that the treatment had been successful. These cases will be kept under observation during 1948 for any re-infestation.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

The eight private slaughterhouses in the Borough remain closed, as all slaughtering for Godalming is still carried out at Guildford under the Government centralised slaughtering scheme.

The majority of Slaughtermen's Licences have lapsed, but a few persons have kept them renewed to enable them to deal with cases of emergency slaughter.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

No complaints were received or nuisance experienced in respect of the one Tannery remaining in the Borough. Trade refuse was removed to farms frequently and without nuisance.

New Housing.

The Town Council has in hand the provision of (a) 26 traditional and 50 permanent prefabricated houses of the "Orlit" type construction, as part of a contemplated scheme of approximately 200 dwellings at Aarons Hill; and (b) 28 traditional houses to complete the Silo Wood Estate scheme.

Twenty-six new houses were completed in the Borough in 1947; four three-bedroomed houses (Silo Wood Estate) by the Town Council and twenty-two by private enterprise; four for letting, and eighteen for owner-occupiers.

In addition, sixteen large houses were converted into twenty-eight flats for letting. Included in this number were two large houses and three Army huts, already requisitioned by the Town Council acting for the Ministry of Health, which were converted into ten separate dwellings.

The above-mentioned provision resulted in the re-housing of twenty-nine families from the Town Council's waiting list, which comprised approximately 730 applications at the close of the year.

The Town Council also arranged the transfer of seventeen families from two-bedroomed to three-bedroomed Council and requisitioned houses during the year, to relieve overcrowding in bedroom accommodation.

Existing Housing.

There was no improvement in the rate of repair of existing cottages during the year; new building had priority in labour and materials, and in consequence only essential repairs could be effected under the provisions of the Housing and Public Health Acts.

It was apparent, from the inspections necessitated by requests from tenants of cottage properties for these repairs, that the deterioration occasioned by lack of repair during the war years was having a serious effect on the standard of housing generally.

Other factors contributing to the existing dilapidated state of cottage property generally are (a) the high cost of building repairs, and (b) inability of owners to meet these costs, rents having been kept at pre-war level. For these reasons it becomes increasingly difficult for the Department to enforce even essential repairs. Whilst one has no sympathy for the landlord who knowingly neglects his cottages, it is a sore point with the average owner that although his tenant is usually well able to afford an increase in rent above 1939 level, and the cost of almost every other commodity has doubled or trebled, he is not permitted even a reasonable increase on his rent to meet the present cost of repairs and other outgoings on his property.

Many cottages which were in a reasonably habitable condition in 1939 are now in need of major repair. It consequently follows that those which were earmarked for closure in 1939 are now beyond repair and must be closed as soon as their present unfortunate occupants can be adequately re-housed.

Two old cottages, closed as unfit in 1940, continued to be occupied by two families under licence issued in consequence of Ministry of Health Circular 2156.

Of the other eight old cottages remaining closed at the end of 1946, two have been re-conditioned and re-occupied by the owners themselves; another has been converted into a florist's shop and store, leaving five remaining closed.

As a result of inspections made consequent upon receipt of complaints, three other dwellings were earmarked for closure. It is hoped the three families concerned can be re-housed in 1948.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1947.

Number of new houses erected during the year—

1.	By the Town Council	4
2.	By other bodies or persons	22
3. (a)	Number of houses converted into flats ...	16
3. (b)	Number of flats resulting from (a)	28

1.—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

1. (a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	187
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	511
2. (a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925 and 1932	Nil
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	Nil
3.	Number of separate tenements found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	4
4.	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	130

2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	108
--	-----

3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936—

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs ... | 12 |
| 2. Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal Notices— | |
| (a) By Owners | Nil |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... | Nil |

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 31 |
| 2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal Notices— | |
| (a) By Owners | 26 |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... | Nil |

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936—

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | Nil |
| 2. Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | Nil |

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936—

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | Nil |
| 2. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | Nil |

E.—Action taken under Ministry of Health Circular 2156—

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Number of houses licensed for temporary occupation | 2 |
|---|---|

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply.—At the close of the year there were four Producers and three Retailers on the Registers.

Graded milk licences in force are as follows :—

Dealers' Licences—Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	3
Dealers' Licences to sell Pasteurised Milk	...	...	3

One dairy farm is producing “Tuberculin Tested Milk” and two others “Accredited Milk” under licence from the Surrey County Council.

Dairy farms, shops, plants, etc., were regularly inspected and the Regulations in regard to cleanliness, etc., found to be well observed.

Meat and Other Foods.—All slaughtering of meat for Godalming is still done at Guildford, so that inspection of meat in cold stores and shops is all that is possible.

The Public Health Meat Regulations appeared to be generally well observed, and little fault could be found with local traders' methods.

The following is a list of foodstuffs condemned as unfit for human consumption during the year :—

1,072½lbs. Meat (including 348½ lbs. in 124 tins).
121 tins Meat.
4 tins of Steak and Kidney Pudding.
9 tins of Meat and Vegetables.
23 tins of Soup.
144 Steak Pies.
216 Pork Pies.
3 tins Lambs' Tongues.
53 stones Fish.
155 tins of Fish.
29 tins Cods' Livers.
1 tin Mussels.
19 jars of Herrings and Herring Fillets.
12 jars of Sprats.

- 6 tins Fish Balls.
- 288 Fishcakes.
- 5 tins Paté de Foie.
- 2 tins of Pease Pudding.
- 176 tins of Vegetables.
- 2 crates of Tomatoes.
- 43 tins Fruit.
- 1 tin Orange Juice.
- 149 Oranges.
- 2 gallons of Apples.
- 9 bottles of Gherkins.
- 12 tins Nestles Milk.
- 1 tin Dried Milk.
- 473 tins Evaporated, Skimmed and Sweetened Milk.
- 71 tins of Jam and Marmalade.
- 2 tins Syrup.
- 12 jars Jam.
- 3 tins Mincemeat.
- 1 jar Paste.
- 1 jar Lemon Curd.
- 577 large Loaves.
- 262 small Loaves.
- 38½lbs. Cheese.
- 5 tins Macaroni Cheese.
- 12½lbs. Butter.
- 1½lbs. Margarine.
- 15½lbs. Sugar.
- 10 lbs. Tea.
- 7 lbs. Rolled Oats.
- 242 lbs. Fine Oatmeal.
- 36 lbs. Flour.
- 1 packet All Bran.
- 914 Eggs.
- 5½lbs. Confectionery.
- 62½lbs. Bacon.

Routine inspections of butchers' and fishmongers' premises, restaurant kitchens, cooked meat shops and bakeries were carried out. Notices to limewash walls, etc., and otherwise remedy defects were complied with and premises generally were found to be kept clean and free from nuisance.

Trade refuse and salvage is removed from traders' premises weekly by the Council, and traders generally co-operate very well in this work.

Adulteration and Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

The Surrey County Council administers those provisions of the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1938, within the Borough, dealing with sampling and analyses of articles of food, etc., for detection of adulteration, deterioration, etc.

The County Medical Officer of Health reports that the following samples were taken in the Borough and analysed during 1947 :—

Thirty-one formal samples—thirty of milk and one of margarine: and twenty-eight informal samples—ten of drugs, two of biscuits, and one each of milk, bacon, butter, cheese, coffee, cooking fat, dates, flour, malted milk, margarine, prunes, sauce, sausages, semolina, spaghetti and sugar.

The informal sample of margarine was found to be “adulterated or irregular,” but there was no prosecution.

The County Council carried out the following sampling and analyses of food and drugs during 1947 in the whole of the County area for which they are the Food and Drugs Authority :

Samples analysed—

Formal	...	...	...	...	...	1,226
Informal	...	...	...	...	...	711
						<hr/> 1,937 <hr/>

Found “adulterated or irregular”—

Formal	...	...	...	...	...	108
Informal	...	...	...	...	...	71
						<hr/> 179 <hr/>

Prosecutions	...	...	...	...	...	7
Convictions	...	...	...	...	...	7

